

## Mississippi's Colleges To Join In Self Study

NASHVILLE — Mississippi's four Baptist colleges are among 50 of the 53 Southern Baptist - related senior and junior colleges which have signed up for a major national study of Southern Baptist colleges made possible by a recent \$100,000 grant.

The study will be conducted by the Program of Liberal (Arts) Studies, currently based at the University of Arizona, Tucson, and funded by the Lilly Endowment of Indianapolis.

Earl J. McGrath, executive director for the Program of Liberal Studies, will administer the grant, and the office of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Nashville will coordinate the study.

McGrath, senior advisor for education for the Lilly Endowment and former secretary of the U. S. Depart-

ment of Health, Education and Welfare, will make a team of nationally recognized educational consultants available to assist with the study, which will focus on a number of areas of institutional life.

Each Baptist college, which will contribute up to \$1,000 to help with the study, will be led in a self-analysis of institutional goals, leadership and management, financial health, curriculum, campus environment, admissions and recruiting, and the perceptions of the laity about the southern Baptist higher education.

Ben C. Fisher, executive director - treasurer of the SBC Education Commission, said it would cost the Baptist colleges an estimated \$25,000 to \$30,000 each to do such a study on their own without the benefit of the \$100,000

(Continued on page 3)

## FMB Sets \$55 Million Budget, Appoints 24

RICHMOND (BP.) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, in its major meeting of the year, voted a record \$55,340,918 budget, named three new staff members, and appointed 24 missionaries.

John E. Mills, currently the board's field representative for West Africa and a missionary since 1947, was named area secretary for West Africa. Mills will begin his new duties Jan. 1, 1977. He succeeds H. Cornell Goerner,

who retires at the end of the year after 19 years with the Foreign Mission Board.

Elected as secretary of the board's newly created department of communications was Thomas W. Hill, missionary director of the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Tex. A missionary since 1956, Hill will assume the new position Jan. 1, 1977.

Harold D. Richardson, controller and assistant treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, was elected as senior assistant treasurer. He will replace Ralph A. Magee, who retires in December.

In other action, the board authorized that steps be taken toward the inauguration of mission programs in Rwanda and Burundi, and appropriated \$124,800 for world relief. Relief appropriations during 1976 now total \$1,055,973.

The newly-adopted 1977 budget exceeds that of 1976 by \$4,304,494, an increase of about 8.4 percent over last year.

Announcing the record total, Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the board, raised the rhetorical question, "Where does that money come from?"

Answering his own question, Cauthen said, "It comes week by week as 34,902 Southern Baptist churches contribute through the Cooperative Program (Southern Baptist unified budget).

The Cooperative Program gifts provide almost a half of the budget and the

(Continued on page 2)

## Hello Baptists: Where Are You?

Approximately 27.5 percent of the 586,560 persons claiming membership in a Southern Baptist church in Mississippi are nonresident members.

The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention is promoting a project to help Southern Baptist churches find and enlist nonresident members in Sunday School. The project is called Hello Baptists.

Nonresident membership in Southern Baptist churches increased by more than 63,000 from 1974 to 1975. Today, of the 12.7 million persons who claim membership in Southern Baptist churches, nearly 3.5 million are nonresident members. This indicates that more than 27 percent of all Southern Baptists are not active in the churches where they maintain their membership.

Hello Baptists gives churches a tool with which they can help churches throughout the nation find and contact nonresidents. Here is how the project works:

The home church checks its membership roles and makes a list of all members who have moved away but have not moved their membership. Then the church contacts the Hello Baptists Desk in Nashville, Tenn., and requests enough Hello Baptists information cards to record one family per card.

After completing the information on all Hello Baptists cards, the church may either mail the cards directly to the churches located near the homes of nonresident members, or to the Hello Baptists Desk, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

Churches that follow the second option need only to mail their information cards to the Hello Baptists Desk. There the cards are divided by conventions and forwarded to state Sunday School secretaries. Then the cards are distributed among the directors of as-

(Continued on page 3)

## Orvil Reid Completes A Run For Life



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## Student Convention Speakers Reflect Need For Live Church

Oct. 15-17 was a weekend of spiritual refreshment for the nearly 700 Mississippi college students who took time out from studies to visit Laurel.

Laurel was the scene of the 52nd annual state Baptist Student Union Convention, meeting at Laurel's First Baptist Church.

The theme, "Christ's Church Alive" was laced through the convention from the speakers to the students' reactions among themselves.

The students approved a record summer missions goal (see related story) and heard a half dozen of their own report on experiences from being student summer missionaries. Rose Alldridge, state BSU secretary from Blue Mountain College, told the group that a summer missionary is not really giving up anything. In fact, "There's no way you can give more than you get from your summer," she said. Miss Alldridge served this past summer in the Kansas-Nebraska Baptist convention.

Robert Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo, told the

students that the great threat to the life of the church is made by those within it. "We see the church as a feeding place and become dissatisfied with the diet and begin to search for a different diet in another religious organization or club," he said.

He said people say they want to go to a place to be fed. "If all you want is to be fed, you'll become a fat pig," he said. "The church is the only divine

organization with the commission to do the will of God."

Actor Tom Lester (see related story) gave an evangelistic sermon explaining that "Freedom is the power to do what you ought to do."

Benton Williams, Sunday School Board consultant in student missions, recounted a visit to several socialist countries he and twenty Baptist college students made. He told of a wor-

ship service in Kiev where a young Baptist student and a young Russian mother could only communicate one word, "love." That was all they needed, Williams said, to know that, "Christ's church is alive."

Student work among Mississippi Baptists is directed by Ralph Winders of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. But Winders, a 32-year veteran

(Continued on page 2)



Students follow the music director's orders to meet five new friends during a break in the activities at the state BSU convention.

## Bible Correspondence Course Planned for Broadcast Media

FORT WORTH (BP.) — Trustees of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here voted to participate jointly with the denomina-

tion's Sunday School Board in Nashville in a project expected to eventually involve as many as 150,000 people in a radio or television Bible correspondence course.

The Radio and Television Commission trustees' vote supports action taken by Sunday School Board trustees in their August meeting.

For the first time in Southern Baptist life it merges the denomination's print media and electronic media in a formal joint effort, a Radio and Television Commission spokesman said.

"One of our Sunday School Board priorities is to encourage indepth Bible study for the masses," said Morton Rose, who presented the Sunday School Board proposal to the Radio and Television Commission trustees.

"In looking for ways to involve as many people as we can in such a Bible study, we looked at the mass media,"

Rose said. He said a survey of existing Bible correspondence courses offered on the air indicate that one non-Baptist group, which produces a program on 803 stations, has about 66,000 people a year involved in correspondence Bible study. In 1975 they were leading more than 7,000 of those people into their church yearly.

"We learned that the number one users of this correspondence study are Southern Baptist members," he said, adding that Southern Baptists are the third largest users of a Bible correspondence course produced by another non-Baptist denomination.

He emphasized, "We are not considering a Bible correspondence course to compete with other denominations, but we feel the response to such a course would be so favorable that in about five years we can involve 150,000

(Continued on page 2)

## Three Weeks Remain Before Mississippi Baptists Meet

By Dr. Jim Keith, Pastor First Baptist Church, Laurel

Only three weeks are remaining for Baptists of Mississippi to make preparation to attend the State Baptist Convention. The 1976 Convention,

which will meet at the First Baptist Church of Jackson on November 16-18, promises to be one of the exceptional moments in Mississippi Baptist history.

Every year at this time outstanding Baptists pastors, preachers, missionaries, and denominational leaders

his training at Ouachita Baptist College and Southwestern Seminary. From the latter institution he received his Doctor of Theology Degree in 1960 and from the former he received the Doctor of Divinity Degree in 1974. He is the author of two books; and he has served as chairman of the Board of Trustees at Southwestern Seminary, president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and chaplain of the House of Representatives for the State of Texas.

"A Triumphant Church...Caring." will be the emphasis of the Wednesday Afternoon message by Dr. John Claypool. Dr. Claypool was born in Kentucky and educated at Baylor University and Southern Seminary, where he received the doctor of theology degree. A noted preacher, he has given lectures on preaching at Midwestern Seminary, Golden Gate Seminary, and Southern Seminary, where he also served as Adjunct Professor of Christian Preaching. This month he will complete his five-year pastorate at the Broadway Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Texas, and will soon assume the pastoral leadership of the Northminster Baptist Church of Jackson.

Wednesday evening will feature two former Mississippians under the



McCullough



Smith



Claypool



Miss Weatherford



Myers



Young

converge in Jackson to join Missis-



# Bible Correspondence Course Planned For Broadcast Media

(Continued from page 1)  
to 160,000 people learning the word of God by correspondence.

Chester F. Russell, Sunday school general administration consultant for the Sunday School Board, has been attached temporarily to the board's office of planning as the staff person to complete the planning stages of the radio - television Bible correspondence project.

Rose said the Sunday School Board had set aside \$250,000 for a task force to develop, direct, and implement this venture. He said the editorial material for the program would be the responsibility of the Sunday School Board "because that is where our expertise lies. The technology of production, marketing, and distribution will be with the Radio and Television Commission because that is where their expertise lies."

Any proceeds over the Sunday School Board's cost of recovery would be divided 75-25, with the Sunday School Board receiving the larger share.

"God may have brought both our agencies to this period in our denominational lives — each with honed skills and equipment," said Paul M. Stevens, Radio and Television Commission president.

Leaders of the two SBC agencies point out that there are a number of denominationally recognized Bible study efforts, including Sunday School Board programs, the six SBC theological seminaries, the SBC Seminary Extension Department and others.

But, they said, there are other efforts produced by individuals who create radio or television Bible correspondence courses for the general public — free or for sale — which aren't necessarily produced under careful guidelines and can easily create long range adverse effects.

"The Southern Baptist Convention," Stevens said, "has an active radio and television ministry which isn't able to operate adequately in the world of Bible study alone."

"Many people live in our society who will not be reached by the individual radio or television preacher on the one hand or a theological institution on the other," said Stevens. "But they might be reached through a radio-television Bible correspondence ministry which is Sunday School oriented."

"The Southern Baptist Convention," Stevens continued, "has an active radio and television ministry, which isn't able to operate adequately in the world of Bible study alone."

"So what happens is the marrying of the skills of two agencies in the same work of a single denomination, when the Sunday School Board — skilled in Bible teaching for Sunday School programs — and the Radio and Television Commission — with a skill and expertise to put it together on the air — can work together. I'm as excited as Grady Cothen (Sunday School Board president) about the possibilities. I believe God is in it."

Agency leaders expect it to take two years to research, prepare, produce, and air the first correspondence course.

Trustees also voted to accept a recommendation from a study committee that a "Baptist Hour" preacher be engaged nine months a year and a summer replacement engaged for three months. No "Baptist Hour" speaker would be allowed to succeed himself without at least a year's interval. The "Baptist Hour" is a modified

worship service produced by the commission.

Trustees also previewed "Listen" and "The Athletes," the commission's two new television series which will be launched in January and marketed in tandem.

"Listen" is a series of 13 quarter hour documentaries dealing with topics of general interest to all members of the family. Charles G. Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., is host. "The Athletes" is a series of quarter hour biographies of contemporary sport stars — men and women who represent sports at all levels.

Pilot productions for the radio department's new stable of programs include two half-hour programs — "Wall to Wall" and "Nashville, Thursday Night." Two new five minute programs previewed were "Good News" and "Mr. Jones, Meet the Master."

## FMB Sets \$55 Million Budget, Appoints 24

(Continued from page 1)  
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions accounts for about one half.

In spite of inflation and the demands of their local programs, Cauthen took note of the fact that the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention increased Cooperative Program giving by 13.45 percent during the convention's fiscal year.

Referring to the other major source of the board's budget, Cauthen pointed out that the \$29 million goal for the 1976 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is probably the largest goal for a special offering ever attempted by any Christian group in history.

Of the \$124,800 in relief appropriations, \$50,000 will provide housing for earthquake victims in Guatemala, \$42,300 will assist victims of Mexico's recent hurricane and floods, \$22,500 will assist emergency needs following a recent earthquake in Ecuador, \$5,000 will purchase basic food supplies and

seed for emergency relief in Nicaragua due to recent drought, and \$5,000 will construct a silo for grain storage in Ghana.

An additional \$13,900.00 was transferred from funds appropriated for relief in Vietnam to undesignated relief funds.

The board also expressed gratitude for 1975 missions challenge funds totaling \$2,320,527 received through the Cooperative Program at the close of the SBC's fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30.

Of the challenge funds, \$397,126 was appropriated for a new addition to the headquarters building in Richmond. The board had appropriated \$1.25 million for the addition in earlier meetings. Anticipated cost of the new wing is in excess of \$1.5 million.

The appointment of 24 missionaries to 12 countries brings the total additions to the missionary force in 1976 to 220 and the overall total to 2,694 missionaries in 84 countries.

## SBC Missionaries Tell 'War Stories' From Lebanon

By Ruth Fowler

RICHMOND (BP) — The exchange of old war stories had an evangelistic tone, probably because missionaries — not soldiers — had gathered to tell of their experiences in the Lebanese civil war.

With the sound of guns far behind them for a little while, Southern Baptist missionaries from Beirut gathered in Jordan for a few days of rest recently before returning to the Beirut Baptist School and other ministries.

William T. (Pete) Dunn and several other missionaries had been at the Beirut Baptist School in a leftist-controlled area when the Tel A'Zataar Camp fell on Aug. 12. Muslim retaliation began immediately, and everyone was confined to his home by the shooting. One main target of the Muslim reprisal was the Syrian church across the street from the Baptist mission building.

"They began kidnapping people from building to building," Dunn said.

"They took 62. Some of them were our Baptist men. The Lord did intervene in a very realistic way. All of the Baptists are safe. They have been released."

Dunn's house was occupied by soldiers who stored their ammunition there and came back each night to celebrate. Dunn witnessed to the young leader of the group, missing no opportunity to spread the word of Christ.

Almost a week after the Tel A'Zataar camp fell, the missionaries packed to leave the area. Stopped at a checkpoint, they were told they could not take baggage out of the area without special permission. After seeking permission at several places, the missionaries returned to the checkpoint. They didn't have official permission, but the guard who had stopped them was not at the checkpoint, and they drove on through.

At the next checkpoint, a guard recognized them as the people who taught his children and convinced the other guards to let them through.

Safely through no man's land (between Muslim-controlled and Phalangist-controlled areas), the James K. Raglands left for the United States on leave, and Mabel Summers elected to stay in Beirut with friends. Dunn and Emma Cooke headed for Syria on their way to Jordan. At the final checkpoint on the Syrian border, the two missionaries were waved through in a few minutes. It had taken William O. (Bill) Hern, another missionary, four days to get across.

"You can't convince me any other way, but that it is a miracle of our Lord," Dunn said. "I accept it as such. I had Emma sitting beside me praying for us."

"I've had a ringside seat for the war," Miss Cooke said.

Then as calmly as she would report a day at school, the missionary told of seeing fighting in the streets beneath her sixth floor apartment window, of being awakened by rockets hitting the building, of being sent home from the market by armed men and even of injuring herself while cleaning up broken glass from windows of her apartment.

"I had wondered what my reaction would be when I was in real danger," Miss Cooke said. "When the rocket came into my building I experienced an unusual sense of calm and peace. The verse came to me from Isaiah — 'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee.' So God really does give us a sense of peace."

Hern also has had his share of narrow escapes and opportunities to witness during the war.

He was going to the other side of Beirut recently to pick up his wife Nancy and daughter Vera after Vera's school term ended. Hern was alone in the car and became separated from the missionaries traveling ahead of him. An armed man decided to ride with him. It is dangerous for a man to travel alone in Beirut because he is an open target for kidnapping.

## Associations Plan For "M" Night

NASHVILLE — Plans are currently being finalized in many associations across the Southern Baptist Convention for "M" Night, the annual meeting which spotlights church training.

Dec. 6 is the suggested date for the meeting, which is a conventionwide emphasis for the 29th consecutive year. "M" Night was inaugurated in 1948 in order to launch the associational church training program.

Included on this year's agenda for most associations will be the introduction of the 100,000 Campaign, a conventionwide emphasis to enroll 100,000 new persons in church training during January - April 1977.

Another suggested "M" Night feature is New Day for Training, an effort to help church leaders start church training programs. The church training department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board has set a goal of 1,197 new church training programs in 1977, the equivalent of one new program for every association in the convention.

## BSU Convention Speakers Report

(Continued from page 1)

of student work, stays in the background, preferring the students themselves to operate their meetings. State BSU president, Dennis McCall, a horticulture major from Mississippi State, led the convention sessions.

Music leader for the convention was Rick Stone, who, along with Randy and Rodney, work together as the Stone Brothers. The brothers, students at Samford University have been singing together for 17 years. They presented special music, including The Lord's Prayer sung a cappella.

Choral music was provided by BSU Choirs at William Carey College and Mississippi College.

Many students stayed in the homes of members of the host church which is pastored by Jim Keith.



Missions Emphasis Day

A check for \$3,056.18 is handed to Chester Vaughn, right, program director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, as First Baptist Church, Aberdeen, dramatized its interest in missions on Missions Emphasis Day. The money will be used for world missions causes including the Cooperative Program, associational missions, Gulfshore, student work, and state missions. Brad Rye Jr., chairman of the deacons, hands the check to Vaughn. Hamp Valentine, minister of music, is in the center. Rev. Ferrell Cork is pastor. The check was the mission income for one day, Oct. 12. In September the missions income of the church was \$2,483.33, and through September the total had been \$29,529.48. Vaughn spoke to the church on Oct. 12 on Missions.

## Prayer Lift For Pastors: Oct. 24-30

### UNION COUNTY

Oct. 24  
Kara Blackard, Beulah  
James Blunt, Blue Springs  
Lawrence Runnels, Center  
Sammy McMillen, Christian Rest  
Jerry Winfield, Ellistown  
Oct. 25  
Rick Holloway, Enterprise  
Jerry Guess, Fredonia  
Jimmy Russell, Glenfield  
Enoch Purvis, Harmony  
Wayne Neal, Hillcrest  
Oct. 26  
Charlie Swords, Pleasant Dale  
William Waddle, Pleasant Hill  
Glen Hudson, Pooleville  
Danny Bryant, Temple  
Kenny Adair, West Tallahatchie  
Oct. 27  
Billy Bell, Zion Hill  
Frank Lay, Ingomar  
Roy Hamilton, Jericho  
Charles Ransier, Keownville  
Ray Jernigan, Liberty  
Oct. 28  
Estus Pirkle, Locust Grove  
Leonard Howell, Macedonia  
H. L. Barnes, Martin  
Paul Coker, Mt. Gilead  
Percy Ray, Myrtle  
Oct. 29  
William Evans, New Albany  
William Merritt, New Hope  
E. L. Crumpton, Neely Memorial  
Billy Dunahoo, New Oak Grove  
Marvin Cox, Northside  
Oct. 30  
Larry Willard, Oakview  
Jerry Sanford, Old Oak Grove  
WALTHALL  
Rodney Calvert, Calvary  
H. G. Martin, Centerville  
Lannie Wilbourn, Crystal Springs



Larry And Donna Barnett

## Conference Shows Materials For Deaf Children And Teens

A conference for workers with deaf children will be held October 29-30 at the Baptist Building in Jackson. The Friday night session, beginning at 7 p.m. and the Saturday morning session at 9:30 a.m., will include a presentation of the new Sunday School literature for Deaf Children, published by the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Donna Barnett of Alexandria, La., a curriculum writer for the deaf children's literature, will be leading these sessions with an emphasis on the development of deaf youth programs in the Saturday afternoon conference, which is 1-3:30.

Rev. Larry Barnett, director of deaf ministries for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, will be leading the conference on youth work. This conference is open to anyone interested in working with deaf children or youth in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School or other church programs.

This conference is being sponsored by the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and coordinated by Rodney Webb, language missions director.

"A thousand forests begin with one acorn." — Jess Moody

## Three Weeks Remain Before Convention Meets

(Continued from page 1)

Young, who was born and raised in Laurel, will be preaching on "A Triumphant Church. . . Claiming." After graduating from Mississippi College and Southeastern Seminary he received the honorary doctor of divinity degree from Furman University. He has served on numerous Southern Baptist Committees, and in June of this year he addressed the Southern Baptist Convention in Norfolk, Va. Dr. Young is a former vice-president of the S.B.C. Pastor's Conference. He is presently the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Columbia, S. C.

Considering the outstanding personalities to be involved in this year's program, the Order of Business Committee asks the Baptist Churches of Mississippi to do three things immediately to assure the success of this year's gathering. First, all churches are encouraged to send their pastors to the convention. It is important for all pastors to participate and every church should encourage and support its pastor's attendance. Second, every church is asked to select the proper number of messengers to represent it at this year's business sessions. Finally, each church is requested to use all means of communication to invite everyone who can to attend, and also utilize all methods of transportation to bring God's people to Jackson in November.

Dr. Jim Keith is a member of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Committee on Order of Business.



## Associations Plan ACTION Campaigns

Neil Jackson (Left), Sunday School Board ACTION consultant, interpreted the ACTION enrollment plan, Oct. 7, for directors of Missions meeting at the Baptist Building. The state goal is 40 associations conducting ACTION campaigns in the next two years. To date, 11 are committed to the plan in the next year.

Prentiss association is the first to conduct and complete an Action campaign. Rev. Neil Moore (third from left), director of missions, reported that six churches, five of which are in

open country or rural areas. In two weeks 311 people were enrolled with an average attendance increase of 210 for the past three Sundays.

Rev. Charlie Bryant (right), director of missions for Smith association, led 17 of the 38 member-churches to participate in an ACTION enrollment campaign in November.

For further information on a church or association ACTION enrollment campaign, contact Bryant Cummings or Judd Allen (second from left), at the Sunday School Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

## Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Chicago (EP) — The composer - president of a liturgical and sacred music publishing firm, who last month charged the Roman Catholic archbishop of Chicago and five parishes with widespread copyright violations, has filed an affidavit in federal court here adding 92 parishes as defendants and upping the damages from \$180,000 to \$2 million.

Worcester, Mass. (RNS) — In the wake of a federal court decision upholding the constitutionality of a Massachusetts law requiring public school children here to begin their days with a minute of silence for "meditation or prayer," Deputy Superintendent of Schools Joseph Keefe said the silent minute was ordered "in the interests of uniformity." He said he hadn't received any "negative feedback."

Salt Lake City (RNS) — A top official of the Mormon Church has criticized the growth of Sunday sports and recreation, and urged church members to keep the Sabbath Day holy. "The Sabbath Day seems to have become a day of recreation," said N. Eldon Tanner, first counselor to the president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon).

Atlantic City, N. J. (RNS) — More than 25,000 persons from the Eastern U.S. are expected to participate in the three-day Eastern General Confer-

ence of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal at Convention Hall here, Oct. 22-24 — making it the largest regional conference of charismatics ever held in this country.

Minneapolis (RNS) — Opponents of aid to parochial schools asked a three-judge federal court here for a temporary injunction against operation of a Minnesota law that gives state money to pay for books and instructional materials for nonpublic school pupils. Some \$4 million was paid out during the last school year under the law, passed by the 1975 Minnesota Legislature; 83,000 pupils received aid, all but 3,000 of them in church-related schools.

New York (RNS) — Church World Service (CWS) plans to train Buddhist monks to teach family planning in rural Thailand.

Salt Lake City (RNS) — The Mormon Church membership has nearly quadrupled in the past 30 years, from 1 million in 1947 to the current 3.4 million, according to Church records. There are now more than 25,000 missionaries serving throughout the world.

New Britain, Conn. (RNS) — A Common Pleas Court judge here has struck down a Sunday "blue law" which had been written by the 1976 Connecticut General Assembly.



# Patterson and Tatum Visit Missionaries In The Orient

By Anne McWilliams

Marjean Patterson, executive secretary, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, and Sue Tatum, corporate secretary, Mississippi Chemical Corporation, Yazoo City, have returned from a three and one-half week trip to the Orient. Traveling on vacation time and at their own expense, they visited Miss Patterson's nephew, Captain David Patterson, at Yokota, Japan. In Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Bangladesh, the Philippines, and Hawaii they visited Mississippi missionaries.

In Korea they stayed with Major and June McDaniel at Seoul. In Taipei, Harry and Frances Raley were their hosts. In Bangkok, Thailand, they visited Glenn and Polly Morris and Don and Barbaranne Phlegar. In Faridpur, Bangladesh, they visited Tom and Gloria Thurman and had fellowship with James and Guinevere Young. In Tokyo they saw Ralph and Gena Calcott. In the Philippines they saw Guy and Lois Henderson, Jimmy Foster, and Jimmy and Paulette Kellum at Manila and went to Baguio City to the Baptist seminary to see Bob and Mary Simmons. In Honolulu, Hawaii, they visited Curtis and Mary Lee Askew.

"We delivered packages and letters from the States," Miss Patterson said. "For instance, I took a box of Tang to the Thurmans; Sue took a package to Barbaranne Phlegar from her mother in Yazoo City." She said that the mis-

sionaries were anxious to hear the latest news from Mississippi, like "How is Ole Miss doing in football?"

Miss Patterson spoke to Baptist women's groups in Seoul, Faridpur, and Honolulu. She addressed the student body in chapel at the Philippine Baptist Seminary. She spoke in the Kanto Plains Baptist Church, Tokyo. She taught the WMU manual at a luncheon in Honolulu.

"As we observed the work of the missionaries, we saw the Cooperative Program at work," she said, "and we saw Baptist buildings, cars, equipment, and other things paid for by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in every country we visited. We met many of the national Christians, too."

They did find time for sightseeing as well. In Bangkok, they were fascinated by the floating market. In Taipei, they toured the famed museum that is filled with jade and other priceless treasures from China. They ate in national restaurants, tasted "real" Korean food, Japanese food, Thai food, and Chinese food. They sat on the floor in a restaurant in Seoul.

"The highlight of the whole trip," she said, "was our visit to Bangladesh. In a country a little larger than Mississippi, there are 80,000,000 people. Floods hindered growth of crops for several years, but farming conditions have been a little better this year."

With missionaries in Bangladesh she visited a camp where beggars, starving and ill, had been taken just to

get them off the streets. Never before had she seen such heartbreaking conditions.

One morning as she sat at breakfast with the Jim McKinleys, they listened to a constant hammering. A carpenter was building a little wooden coffin for the five-year-old son of a Christian family. The child had died of worms. Moslem relatives had taunted the Christian family: "See what happens to Christians? Your son died!"

"Though they must be disturbed by all the misery around them, the missionaries remain optimistic as they go about their tasks," she said. James Young is an evangelical missionary, but is also trying to see that new wells are dug in different sectors, so that the people can have fresh water. Tom Thurman travels to many small villages, where he preaches.

The Thurmans told her about their observance of the American Bicentennial in July. Gloria made red, white and blue dresses and shirts for her family, and cooked specially decorated cakes. At church, they announced that the people were invited to their home for a celebration. They expected 200 to 250 for their reception, and 450 came, including the city's top

officials. "The missionaries are highly respected in Bangladesh," Miss Patterson said. Most of the people in that country are either Moslem or Hindu.

One of the missionaries pointed out to Miss Patterson and Miss Tatum that starting with India, two out of every three people in the world live in the Orient.

Miss Patterson said, "My strongest feeling on the plane, on the way home was, 'How thankful I am to have been born in a Christian culture.' Lots of things in America are not Christian, but our system of government was influenced by the teachings of Jesus. We have so much more in every way than other people in the world."

"I don't even remember when I was first taken to a Christian church. Millions in the Orient have never been inside a Christian church, have never even heard the name of Christ. I thought, 'How grateful I am that I know Him. I could have been born there, and never heard of Jesus.' I saw people at Buddhist and Shinto shrines. I could have been one of them. I could have been an old, old woman at the age of 47, had I been born in Bangladesh. I thought, 'Lord, why did you let me be born here instead of there?'"

## Mississippi's Colleges

(Continued from page 1)

Fisher said McGrath reported that he recommended the study to the Lilly Endowment because Southern Baptist colleges are financially sound, concerned about the transmission of values and willing to wear their church-related label proudly, and are increasing in enrollments when many other private institutions show declines.

"The study itself, which grew out of the exposure our Baptist colleges received at our National Colloquium on Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools last June in Williamsburg, Virginia, involves a recognition of Baptist schools as a national asset," said George E. Capps of the Education Commission.

"For the first time," said Capps, the Commission's association executive director, "some of our colleges will be able to afford a self-study of this type."

"I view the study as a strong vote of confidence in Southern Baptist higher education and believe it can be of inestimable value in the three-year follow-up to the National Colloquium," Fisher added. The Colloquium and its follow-up are designed to be an intensive study of priorities and purposes of Baptist schools.

The McGrath study is expected to be completed by December and to be evaluated and released by June of 1977.

The Mississippi Baptist colleges participating are Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain; Mississippi College, Clinton; William Carey College, Hattiesburg; and Clarke College, Newton.

## Tom Lester Became An Actor So He Could Witness For Christ

By Tim Nicholas

Tom Lester, guest speaker at the Mississippi Baptist Student Convention at Laurel, became an actor so he could do what he really wanted to do—tell people about Jesus Christ.

"Whatever job we have in life," he said in an interview, "is only to meet our needs and to put us in a position to witness for the Lord."

Best known for his characterization of "Eb" in the television show "Green Acres," Lester, a Laurel native, lives in Hollywood, Calif., reading for parts during the week and filling Christian-oriented speaking engagements on weekends.

For now, the parts are few and far between. Lester won't accept an acting part that would not glorify God. "I wouldn't take a drink on a television show for a billion dollars," said Lester, 38.

In the script for the last television show he was on, a pilot for a series that was not picked up by the network, he was required to be offered a drink. He told the producer that he couldn't be one kind of person in real life and portray another type on television. The script was rewritten around the drinking offer.

He hasn't had a show since that one, over a year and a half ago, but he says his religion doesn't keep him from being offered parts. "If you can act, they don't care whether you're a Christian or not," he says.

He wishes other Christian actors would refuse questionable parts. "If people would start turning down these

sorry parts, we wouldn't have anybody to play them," said Lester.

Lester accepted Christ at age ten. Majoring in chemistry and biology at Ole Miss, he suppressed his desire to be an actor until after teaching biology at Purcell, Okla., for a year.

Then he chucked it and went to Hollywood. The first thing he did was join a Baptist church, First Baptist of Beverly Hills. There he said he found fellowship and met Lurene Tuttle, a drama coach and actress who helped him get started.

After acting in a few plays, he read for the part of Eb and was hired over 400 other actors.

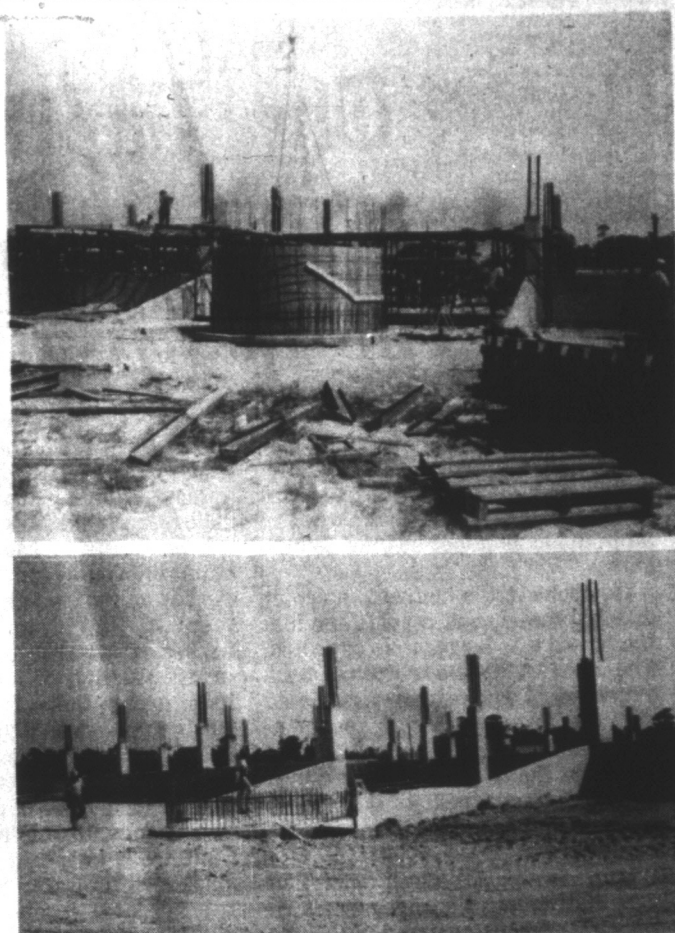
Lester told the students who were meeting at his home church, First Baptist in Laurel, that a Christian needs to stand in the gap before the Lord as spoken of in Ezekiel 22, "A Christian needs to stand in the gap among the dishonest politicians, among Christians who don't live the Christian life and among false prophets," Lester said.

## Hello, Baptists: Where Are You?

(Continued from page 1)

sociational missions.

In turn, the directors locate churches near the homes of these non-resident Baptists and pass the cards along accordingly. The task is not finished, however, until the local church visits each nonresident family and seeks to enlist them in Bible study.



### GULFSHORE CONSTRUCTION

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly buildings rise again out of the sands of the beach at Pass Christian on Bay St. Louis. The old buildings were wiped out by Hurricane Camille in 1969. The new construction will conform with hurricane-proof building regulations now prevailing in the area.



**HONORED FOR 36 YEARS OF SERVICE**—Georgia Mae Ogburn of Meridian, was one of seven retiring Southern Baptist missionaries honored recently for her service as a foreign missionary. She served for 36 years in Chile. Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, awarded Miss Ogburn a certificate of appreciation for her service. Earlier this fall, Miss Ogburn returned to Chile to receive the Bernado O'Higgins Decoration—the country's highest award to a foreigner—for recognition of her contributions to the moral, educational, and spiritual life of Chile.

## Ladies' Noonday Bible Study Begins at Calvary Church

More than 80 were present for the first Weekly Ladies' Noonday Luncheon and Bible Study program held Tuesday, Oct. 12, at Calvary Church in Jackson.

The new program is expected to grow in attendance, with over 100 anticipated at subsequent Tuesday meetings, according to Dr. Joe H. Tuten, pastor.

The program begins at 11:45 a.m. with the serving of luncheon, cafeteria-style. From 12:30 until 1:30 p.m. Dr. Tuten teaches the Bible, with the First and Twenty-Third Psalms being studied for the remainder of this year.

Mrs. Kimble Sutherland presided at the first meeting, with other ladies of

the church to preside at subsequent gatherings.

Dr. Tuten said that the comprehensive new program is church-wide in scope with ladies in the church in some instances inviting friends to attend. The meeting is open to any lady or ladies who desire to attend.

The church nursery will be open during the program for the care of preschool children.



Tom Lester



Conferences Begin at 7:00 p.m.

October 25

Bel Aire, Gulfport

First, Philadelphia

Harrisburg, Tupelo

October 26

Temple, Hattiesburg

First, Columbus

First, Batesville

October 28

First, McComb

First, Pearl

Eastwood, Indiana

Leader

Ken Mooney, Church Training Program Director, Louisiana

Shaylor Walters, Church Training Department Director, South Carolina

Charles Lowry, Teaching-Training Division Director, Louisiana

### Revival Dates

Pleasant Hill Church, Rt. 3, Quitman (Clarke): Oct. 25-31; Dr. James Ewell, Shelby, NC, evangelist; Arlis and Barbara Nichols, singers; services 7 p.m. and 10 a.m.; Ralph Smith, pastor.

First Church, Lumberton: October 25-31; Floyd Lizenby of Minden, Louisiana, evangelist; Gordon Alford, music director; services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday; Rev. David Strebeck, pastor.

Calvary, Silver Creek (Lawrence): October 24-29; Sunday Services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; services nightly at 7; Rev. Wylie Heath, Hattiesburg, evangelist; Mike Scott, Hattiesburg, guest musician; Rev. Doug Warren, pastor.

CLASSIFIED

**YOU ARE INVITED** to the **RIDGECREST BAPTIST CHURCH** Jackson, Mississippi

**TWENTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY** and **HOMECOMING CELEBRATION** Sunday, October 24, 1976 Rev. Julius Thompson, Pastor

### PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

10:55 A.M. Worship Service  
12:30 P.M. Dinner on the grounds  
2:00 P.M. Afternoon Service

HOW

Church Training Director needs to know



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### The Boat Hasn't Left Yet

A few days ago a Southern Baptist pastor from another state came to town, evidently with the purpose of helping out those of us who have missed the boat. At least, that's what an ad in the local paper seemed to indicate.

He spoke in the convention center of a big motel, and reports are that the crowd was larger than expected. The motel said about 800 had been expected. A spokesman associated with the group sponsoring the meeting indicated that no records were kept, but that it was a larger crowd than had been expected.

The sponsor? The Full-gospel Businessmen's Fellowship.

Back to the ad. The implication was that the crowd among Southern Baptists who have missed the boat is a pretty sizeable group, in fact, most of us. It pointed out that "you don't get it all at salvation." It commented further that Southern Baptists now are receiving a blessing that they have been missing out on since Bible times—the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Whether the Holy Spirit was the "it" referred to in the sentence mentioned above was not discussed. The Holy Spirit, of course, is a person, not an "it."

This is not sarcasm. The theology this speaker espouses is his own, and

he has every right to hold to whatever his beliefs are. Whether or not he fits what would normally be described as a Baptist might be open to question, but evidently he feels he does.

If he wants to speak in a motel rather than one of our local churches, there is no reason to become excited about it. He can speak where he pleases. If he wants to speak through the sponsorship of a nondenominational group, there is no thought of censorship—even if that group has a sizeable part of its membership made up of adherents of other persuasions which are not completely in agreement with Baptist beliefs.

But when an ad in a local paper announces that now Southern Baptists are now receiving something they haven't had before, a lot of people get upset.

The writer is among them.

The speaker may feel indeed that Southern Baptists have missed it all the way through and that he can help us by making such speeches. Give him credit for good motive if not sound judgment.

Maybe the speaker didn't write the ad at all. And maybe there are a lot of us who, though we "got it all at salvation," haven't done much about it since. Maybe the speaker could help some of us understand better

how we could be more open to the Holy Spirit.

But to take out an ad in the paper to try to explain to all the world that we have missed it—that's hard to swallow.

In the midst of complaint, however, we must also point out the positive side of the record. State convention minutes show that from 1972 until 1975 the Sunday School at his church grew in enrollment from 1,275 to 2,508. Average attendance increased from 388, to 1,415. Resident membership increased from 1,833 to 4,274.

In 1972 the total income of the church was \$164,761 and Cooperative Program gifts were \$9,300. In 1975 the total income was \$538,731 and Cooperative Program gifts were \$57,974. Later the local association withdrew fellowship from this church; but a check with the state convention office reveals that through September the church had sent \$51,079.06 through the Cooperative Program. So the pastor evidently feels pretty strongly that his church is Southern Baptist in alignment and in spirit.

Perhaps the next time he speaks to a nondenominational group a little more thought could be given to the advertising.

## Letters To The Editor

### Reflections On "Superstar"

Dear Sir:

I am a Christian and I gained strength in Christ while watching "Jesus Christ, Superstar." Admittedly, there are shocking scenes, but this America of ours is a callous society. Force is almost necessary to break through our hardened mental shells. In worship services throughout the convention each Sunday, the primary goal of ministers is to create an atmosphere in which communication is established between God and man resulting in man gaining insight into the teachings he is to live by. I believe in the traditional formula for these services.

However, drama, a picture, can be worth millions of words. "Jesus Christ, Superstar" can communicate. It is obvious that this movie was filmed through the eyesight of persons who are not as yet reborn Christians, a viewing point from which all of us have looked. Some of the confusion of the non-Christian can be sensed in Mary's heart-felt song, "I Don't Know How To Love Him," and Judas' dialogue in which he refused to realize Jesus as the divine Christ. In fact, here is a primary insight; He's not "just a man." Judas' portrayal could almost be that of an activist college student of the '60's, inspired, but unsure of his goal. Jesus' song in what was supposed to be a garden was deeply moving. A more revealing picture of God's human, but divine son would be difficult to conceive. "It hurts," said Jesus, "but, I'll die."

There was rapid growth of food for thought: How would the praise and honor Jesus received affect a man? What would the pressures on Jesus do to a man? Would the temptations placed on Judas affect one of us? Place yourself in Jesus' sandals before Pilate and Herod. What would your reaction be?

A reflection of the coldness of the religious leaders came through in the line: Cheer up, Judas; "you backed the right horse."

Along with the good, there was bad. One scene shows Christ leisurely surrounded by what could appear as a harem. This is an implication that I resent. There are others.

As with several well-known movies of late, the ending is the death of a leading personality, leaving viewers with an emptiness which seems to intensify emotional reactions. Perhaps this was one consideration in not dramatizing the resurrection. At any rate, there is no resurrection for the lost. The writers have reached the same conclusion as millions of others living today, "It was fun, but when I die, it is over."

I've said little about the scene by scene production. What I am saying is that this movie which has in it meaningful ideas for the Christian, is an expression of a lost and searching humanity in need of "Jesus Christ, Savior."

Clark Measels  
Ellisville, MS.

I appreciate having this viewpoint of the film. I had just about written it off as being valueless. It had some good music and some powerful scenes, but nowhere in it was divinity ascribed to Christ. Mary Magdalene said, "He's just a man," and the conclusion of the film left him on the cross. I suppose this would be the normal viewpoint of the non-Christian.

It was interesting to have the New Testament viewed from the non-Christian perspective. The source of information for the film, was the New Testament. If the film makers were going to use that source and make such a film, were they not less than honest to leave out the resurrection, which is such a central element of the New Testament message.

As do you, I hope our young people will search for theological viewpoints from our pulpits rather than such a film as this. But I

believe you are right in pointing that it gives us as Christians an insight into the non-Christian's thinking and groping for answers. While it might not help a non-believer find Christ, it might help us as witnesses better understand his attitude and perspective.—Editor

### Exchange Student

Dear Sir:

Between Mississippi College and the Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz (Germany) exists an exchange-student program. This program supports the education of an individual student by giving him a chance to study in a foreign college or university. For the season 1976/77 M. C. decided to offer a scholarship to me, Miss Hiltrud Wetzel.

I traveled many miles until I arrived at Jackson Airport Sept. 1. Meanwhile I have been in Clinton for a few weeks and in Latimer Webb (Dorm on the Campus) I have found a second home. Primarily I want to study the American language and the instructors and students of the College have endeavored to help me. With their friendly advice I am able to manage my courses and to communicate well.

Besides my studies I am very interested in the political, social, and cultural development of Mississippi and therefore I do not hesitate to extend my knowledge in discussions. I am also participating in different activities of the college and I think this is a good way to help other people and to make friendship.

During my brief stay I collected some new experiences; Germany is an industrial country with a small agricultural area; in Mississippi there are wide landscapes for agricultural use and under the influence of a temperate climate it has a different vegetation, e. g. cotton or soybeans.

I hope that I shall have enough time to see many parts of the South of the United States. I do not know if I shall ever have the opportunity to come back to this continent, but there is one thing I already know, I will never forget my impressions about this beautiful country and its friendly inhabitants.

Hiltrud Wetzel  
Mississippi College

### Prayer Petition

Dear Sir:

We have started a new project which we wish to ask help on. I am enclosing a copy of a petition which we are praying may be circulated throughout the state and hope to accumulate enough signatures to present to one of our elected officials at or around election time. We believe that this bicentennial period presents the best time of trying to reverse some of the antichristian trends of our government and

that restoring the right of prayer in our public schools is one way to start. If you agree and see fit to print this petition in the Baptist Record we would be most grateful!

Leonard Cummings  
Pheba

### Petition to the United States of America

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States prohibits the Congress from making laws prohibiting the free exercise of religion or freedom of speech and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America establishes the belief of our Founding Fathers in God and our dependence on divine providence and

WHEREAS, the undersigned believe that the Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States of America have erred grievously in interpreting the United States Constitution so as to deny the right of the people to have public prayer in the public schools, and

WHEREAS, we, the undersigned, fully believe that many of the internal disorders of our country are a direct result of said limitation of the right of the people to engage in public prayer.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the undersigned respectfully petition the Congress of the United States of America to take whatever steps may be necessary in order to reestablish the right of the people to have non-sectarian prayer in the public schools of these United States of America and further to encourage moral training and discipline in said public schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Thank you for sharing the petition and your concern surely is appreciated by all who are concerned about the problems mentioned in it. As we consider such action, however, we need to realize that the Supreme Court has never denied the right of public prayer in public schools — if it is voluntary. The court said neither the school nor the government can tell a person he has to pray nor write his prayer for him if he prays either voluntarily or otherwise. The establishment of non-sectarian prayer also presents a problem since that would include Jewish prayers, which are not made in the name of Jesus, and would also have to embrace the prayers of any number of sects calling themselves religions. A check with a spokesman at the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, however, says such petitions as yours serve well in pointing out how bureaucratic offices can misinterpret the Supreme Court action and cause an unnecessary void in public prayer. — Editor

### On The Moral Scene

**EROSION OF FAMILY STABILITY** — Lately, the erosion of family stability and authority has been seen as an important public concern. Sociologist Amitai Etzioni, for example, writes that until the 1960's, performance and stability in family life were considered normal. Increases in divorce rates were taken as a sign of social pathology, and when difficulties arose, the question asked by marriage counselors and friends — always with a presumption in favor of a positive answer — was "Can this marriage be saved?" Today,

however, Dr. Etzioni and others observe a drastic change in this regard; family break down is accepted as often unavoidable and even healthy, while the "nuclear family" structure finds itself undermined by new attitudes that have little respect for it. There is a reverse side to divorce rates: nine million children under 18, three million of them under six, are now being raised by one parent. The rate of increase in the number of one parent families is three times that of "nuclear families" over the past ten years. (America, June 5, 1976, p. 488)



Never Changing Regenerative Power

### Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

C. Ronald Goulding, associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, formerly of London but now living in Washington, D. C., was in Jackson October 7 to address the Mississippi Religious Leadership Conference. To the Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish guests gathered around the banquet tables at First Baptist Church, Goulding told this story:

It was time for the meeting of a big Baptist convention. One church could get no one to go but a little old woman, so they appointed her as messenger. She proudly pinned to her shoulder a ribbon rosette advertising the fact that she was a messenger to the Baptist convention.

When she got on the train, some young men saw her rosette. Within her hearing, they started making fun of Baptists. One said, "I'm going to move to Utah where only seven percent of the people are Baptists."

The old lady didn't say anything. Another young man said, "I'm going to move to San Francisco where only one percent of the people are Baptists."

The old lady still didn't say a word. When a third young man opened his mouth to say where he was going to escape the Baptists, the old lady could stand it no longer. She jumped up and shook her finger in his face: "Young man, where you are going there won't be any Baptists!"

Back in the '30's the Baptist Building was on the corner of Capitol and President Streets in Jackson. The WMU Department and the Baptist Record shared one telephone that was in the WMU office. Evie Landrum was a field worker for the WMU and A. L. Goodrich, circulation manager of the Record and a widower, would go to answer the telephone and stay to

talk to Evie. Before very long she became Evie Goodrich. Mrs. Goodrich lives in Clinton. A week or two ago she was telling me about an incident in the WMU office "back then."

Miss Fannie Traylor was WMU executive secretary; Miss Edwina Robinson was young people's leader; Miss Nettie Ree Traylor was office secretary; and Evie traveled about teaching mission study courses and leading conferences. They were always packing the car with big loads of literature and teaching helps. One day they were going to a district conference. They were all rushing around trying to get things organized and into the car so they would be ready to leave, when Freeman, the Baptist Building janitor, made an observation: "Miss Nettie Ree, you is the mos' decomposed woman in this office!"

At the Christian Writers' Conference in Black Mountain, North Carolina, Alex Vaughn of North Augusta, South Carolina, told about a frustrating experience he had with an old typewriter.

"I was enjoying my job with a newspaper," he said. "I thought I would really like being a newspaperman, except for one thing. They assigned to me an old typewriter that had everything wrong with it imaginable. I tried and tried to type on it, but it was driving me crazy. I begged the editor for a new one. I worried him until one day he made a promise. He said, 'All right, then. When that typewriter will not work at all, then you can have a new one. Until then, I don't want to hear any more about it.' I sat down at the hated machine, and inspiration dawned. 'Will not work at all?' I grabbed the typewriter, I dashed up to fourth floor, and I threw it out the window!"

"That's how I became a postal employee."

## Book Reviews

### "Your Church Is News"

Your Church Is News by Ramond G. Mecca; Judson Press; 34 pages; paper back; \$3.50.

This is an attempt to help identify the persons and events in the church which are newsworthy. It speaks in broad categories in that respect, but it is more specific in providing practical steps in helping make the news known to newspapers, television, and radio. It tells how to approach the editors and how to gather and prepare the news. There is a section on the use of pictures.

Profiles of Revival Leaders by W. Glyn Evans; Broadman; 128 pages; \$2.50.

The author gives a brief survey of American revivalism and then presents a series of personal studies on five leading revivalists in American history. He gives a sketch of their lives, the main ideas they proclaimed, and their general style and effectiveness. The five are Jonathan Edwards, Charles G. Finney, Dwight L. Moody, Billy Sunday, and Billy Graham.

Hebrews, The Life that Pleases God by James T. Draper; Tyndale; 382 pages; \$7.95.

This is an expository treatment of the book of Hebrews designed to meet the needs of such a diversified audience as serious Bible students, pastors, and laymen. Word studies are used to bring light upon obscure passages and to bring biblical truth into practical application for life. The book is profound and yet elementary.

Uncle Ben's Quotebook by Benjamin de Jong (Baker, \$7.95, 304 pp.) The author says he spent fifty years collecting these quotations. As a preacher and teacher he used them to spice up his sermons, church bulletins, and college classes. For this book he arranged the quotations alphabetically by category, beginning with ADVICE and ending with WORRY.

Shokari Pass by Ayako Miura (Fleming H. Revell, \$5.95, 272 pp.) Now finally published in America, this book sold over one million copies in its native Japan and throughout Europe. Based on fact, it is a moving love story set in Japan at the turn of the century. Packed with emotion, it is climaxed by a spectacular act of self-sacrifice that reveals one man's deep need to know, and to believe in, one God.

It is said that in the original Japanese, this best seller has done much to remove prejudice and to introduce Christianity to the Japanese people.

Abraham, Man Of Faith by Elsie Rives, illustrated by William N. McPeckers; MOSES, GOD'S HELPER by William E. Young, illustrated by J. William Myers; PETER, THE PRINCE OF APOSTLES by Muriel F. Blackwell, illustrated by Paul Karch; JOSEPH THE FORGIVER by Jester Summers, illustrated by Michael Sloan; PAUL THE MISSIONARY by Iva Jewel Tucker, illustrated by Ron Hester; JESUS, GOD'S SON, SAVOR, LORD by Eugene Chamberlain, illustrated by James Padgett (Broadman Press, 48 pp., each, \$3.95 each, BibLearn Series).

This is an attractive new series of books published by Broadman for children. Vivid character stories, filled with action verbs, and vibrant illustrations in full color will intrigue young readers. While they read with eagerness, they will at the same time be learning about Abraham, Moses, Peter, Joseph, and Paul, and about the life of Jesus.

### The Baptist Record

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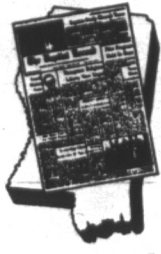
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## Just For The Record

The Rev. Victor J. Payne, who has been serving as assistant to the pastor, Calvary Church, Jackson, for four years, has accepted a call as pastor of Drew Church.



Payne, native of Lucedale, graduated from Mississippi College and later attended Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., where he received the Master of Divinity degree.

He was minister of music and youth at Flora Church, 1963-65 and interim pastor of Eden Church, Yazoo City, 1965-66.

He is married to the former Peggy Langley of Laurel. They have a daughter, Cathy, 10, and a son, Jim, 6.

**GUADALAJARA, Mexico** — "Jimmy Crane's contribution to Baptists of Mexico will live for generations because of the permanence of the printed page," noted Southern Baptist Representative L. Laverne Gregory in awarding James D. Crane, veteran Southern Baptist representative, the 1976 J. Edgar Davis Literature Award here recently. The award is given annually by Progreso Book Store (Baptist Book Store) of Mexico to a person who has made a significant contribution in the field of religious literature.

Pleasant Hill Church, Leake County, will have homecoming day on Sunday, October 24. The pastor, Rev. Dewey Wayne Moore, will deliver the 11 a.m. message. Lunch will be served on the church grounds. The afternoon program will include singing by the Hooks Trio and the Christian Way Singers.

Rev. Wayne E. Fuels and his wife, Marcia, have moved to Roundaway Community, Sunflower County, where he has begun his ministry as the pastor of Roundaway Church.



Rev. Fuels was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, but has lived in Leland, Miss., most of his life. He has a B.A. degree from Mississippi State University and Master of Divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

He is married to the former Marcia Mitchell of Pontotoc, also a graduate of Mississippi State University. Rev. and Mrs. Fuels went to Roundaway from New Orleans.

The church welcomed them with an old-fashioned pantry shower and dinner at the church.

Rev. David Shepherd has been called as pastor of County Line Church in Walnut. He is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Herbert Shepherd of Pensacola, Florida, where Rev. Shepherd is pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church.

The new County Line pastor is married to the former Peggy Diane Pollitt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pollitt of Pensacola. At present he is a student at Mid-American Seminary in Memphis.

Prior to his accepting the call as pastor of County Line Church he was associate pastor of Winston Church in Memphis.

Rev. Joe Lynn Joyner of Meridian is the new pastor of Southside Church Aberdeen. The church gave a reception to welcome him and his wife, Linda, who was from Amory, and their two children, Lee, 6, and Janna, 4.



Rev. Joyner is a native of Fernandina Beach, Florida. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He has served as pastor at Homewood (Scott); First Church, Abita Springs, La.; and Hebron (Lauderdale).

## Names In The News



REPRESENTATIVES from the various educational programs at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center make up the executive council of its Baptist Student Union. Planning BSU activities and making policy decisions are two of the council's main responsibilities. Left to right (front row) Stephanie Stringer, Annette Herrington, Lane Hart, Willie Mae Lewis and Curtis Grace. Back row: Ann Mercer, B.S.U. Director Kathy Bearden, Karen Stafford, Steve Compton and Marcia McKee. Not pictured: Elizabeth Wilson. (Photo by Mike Joiner).

Stephen Lavelle (Steve) Parish was licensed to the gospel ministry, Sunday September 26, by Pine Grove Church, Ellisville, where he serves as minister of music and youth. The Natchez native, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Lavelle



Parish, is married to the former Karen Bedwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Millard Bedwell, Hattiesburg. He is a Junior Bible Major at William Carey College and Karen is a nursing student at USM. Steve was presented a certificate of license signed by Wen-

del Turner, moderator, Mrs. Floyd Sanderson, church clerk, and Dr. B. F. Smith, pastor. He delivered the morning sermon. Guest music director was Wesley Lawson, Carey senior from Florida, who sang "So Send I You."

John H. West was recently licensed to the gospel ministry by the Big Creek Church (Wayne). Rev. Franklin McLelland, pastor. Mr. West was almost killed in an explosion the first of the year and tells how God answered prayer and re-

stored him to health and called him to preach the Gospel of Christ. He is available to share his testimony and for pulpit supply. He can be contacted at Route 3, Waynesboro, or by phone: 735-3326. He is married to the former Evon Davis and they are the parents of two children: Jamie 11; Amy 6.

Sarah Willey Young completed sixteen years of perfect Sunday School attendance on September 26. The first fifteen years one month of this achievement was completed at Mt. Pisgah Church (Rankin), and the last eleven months of Sarah's perfect attendance has taken place at New Hope Church (Leake) where her husband, Jimmy, is pastor.



The Rev. Ross Burnside was ordained recently by Highland Church, Meridian. Rev. Burnside is serving as pastor of Goodwater Church in Lauderdale County. He was born in Meridian, and his parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Burnside. He received his B.S. degree from University of Southern Mississippi and Master of Divinity from New Orleans Seminary. He taught in the Meridian Public School system for twelve years before entering the ministry. Rev. J. Carroll Hamilton is the Highland pastor.



Burnside. He received his B.S. degree from University of Southern Mississippi and Master of Divinity from New Orleans Seminary. He taught in the Meridian Public School system for twelve years before entering the ministry. Rev. J. Carroll Hamilton is the Highland pastor.

## Youth Evangelism Leadership Conference Slated Nov. 1-5

ATLANTA, Ga. — Ways to more effectively reach young people will be discussed during the Youth Evangelism Leadership Conference at Ridgecrest Conference Center, Nov. 1-5.

The conference is sponsored by the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board Barry St. Clair, director of youth evangelism for the HMB, will coordinate the conference.

Speakers include Peter Lord, pastor of First Church of Titusville, Fla.; Ken Medema, singer, songwriter, and pianist; E. W. (Buddy) Price, pastor of Green Street Church of High Point, N. C.; Rod Minor, with the HMB Evangelism Section; Max Barnett, director of the Baptist Student Union at Oklahoma University; and St. Clair.

Other conference personalities include youth ministers from across the convention.

spiritual growth in young people through discipleship groups, and work with retreats, socials, and Bible Studies.

Additional information may be obtained from St. Clair at the Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309.

## McNairs Move To Spain

Dr. and Mrs. John L. McNair, missionaries, have transferred from India to Spain (address: Av. Generalísimo 133, Madrid 16, Spain). Both are from Mississippi. He is a native of Magee. The former Kathy Lee, she was born in Poplarville and lived in Lucedale, Hattiesburg and Pass Christian.

## Missionaries Relieved After Military Takeover

BANGKOK, Thailand (BP) — Word received from Southern Baptist missionaries in Thailand early on Oct. 7 indicated a feeling of relief that the Oct. 6 military takeover of the Thai government has ended a recent period of turmoil.

Missionary Hubert A. Fox reported to William R. Wakefield, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's secretary for Southeast Asia, that the military coup had occurred as a result of disturbances and fighting at Thammasat University here.

Wakefield said Fox confirmed a good deal of fighting and bloodshed had occurred but said the missionaries were not involved in any way in the fighting or disturbances.

Wakefield does not expect any changes in mission work in Thailand.

## Choctaws Participate In Reservation-Wide Meet

By Dolton Haggan

From Conehatta, Red Water and Standing Pine, from Tucker, Bogue Chitto, and Bogue Homo, the Choctaws came each night to the Pearl River Indian community for a reservation-wide crusade. The revival was one of four being held simultaneously among language groups in Mississippi.

Dr. B. Frank Belvin, Oklahoma Choctaw, Indian consultant for the Home Mission Board, was the evangelist.

Each morning, Dr. Belvin used 25 minutes of radio time given by WHOC (Philadelphia) to bring messages from I Corinthians.

Each night for the eight nights (Sunday-Sunday), the services were held in the Pearl River Community Center. The nightly attendance averaged 213 with at least two-thirds of those being under 40. Another observation was that many, many of the people in attendance were not from among the regular church-goers. Among the public decisions were eleven professions of faith in Jesus as Savior, 21 rededications, and one surrender to the gospel ministry.

The reservation-wide crusade was sponsored by the New Choctaw Baptist Association. Robert Lee King was the crusade music director and the Rev. Clay Gibson was the crusade chairman. Most associational leaders agree that "this was the best ever Crusade."

The crusade in New Choctaw As-

BANGKLA, Thailand — Fourteen employees of the Thailand Baptist Mission Hospital here were recently exposed to rabies. After being admitted to the hospital, a Thai woman showed definite signs of having rabies. She was transferred to a rabies hospital in Bangkok where the disease was confirmed.



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It's Christian honesty time again. We call it by different names — things like Stewardship Campaign, Ingathering, Budget-Pledging, Financial Program.

But, by whatever we call it, it comes down to a time of Christian honesty. It is that time when we decide what part of us will go back into special efforts for the Lord as they are projected and carried out by our church through its budget, the black and white statement of our church's purpose in dollars and cents.

Any institution which accomplishes its purposes honorably and worthily has a plan for using the money which is to be carried through its offices as the days go by. If any institution in the world should accomplish its purposes honorably and worthily, the church should, don't you think?

But aside from the fact that we Christians ought to be careful to do our Father's work decently and in order, and that we Christians ought to be doubly careful — in this time of engrossing dishonesty — to be honest with ourselves and God, I keep thinking of the joy of giving.

Somehow, the checks we put into our envelopes to pay our pledge cease to be pieces of paper that represent dollars. They are suddenly faces where tears have been wiped away, bodies which have been healed, lives which have been turned around, shoulders which are held higher, eyes which shine brighter, hearts that do not hate as much, stomachs that are not as hungry, beings who are not as lonely, feet that have somewhere to go, hands that have something to do, beings who have life to live.

Somehow, we at our house become partners with everybody all around the world who preaches the gospel from the pulpit or from the operating room, from a tractor tilling a new field or from behind a teacher's desk.

Somehow, we become associates with folks like Dr. Baker James Cauthen and Dr. William G. Tanner and Dr. Grady Cothen and all the folks who work with them around the world, too.

We are modern-day Rices who stay here and they are modern-day Judsons who go. James and I really like being a part of such teams.

Happy pledging to you. It's one of my favorite times of the church year.

would necessarily signal any change in our opportunity to do mission work," he added.

Sixty Southern Baptist missionaries are assigned to Thailand.

sociation was coordinated jointly by the Cooperative Missions and Evangelism departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and the Evangelism Division and Language Missions Department of the Home Mission Board, under the supervision of Roy Collum, Rodney Webb, and Bob Sena.

## Bay Vista Plans Puppet Seminar

A seminar on the use and usefulness of professional-quality puppets as effective learning tools will be held at Bay Vista Church, Biloxi, on Saturday, October 30, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The three and one-half hour training session will be conducted by professionals from Puppet Productions, Inc. (PPI), a San Diego, California firm which trained over 10,000 persons in nationwide seminars last year.

Video tape and film segments, and live demonstrations will provide firsthand visual lessons on the production of professional-quality puppet shows.

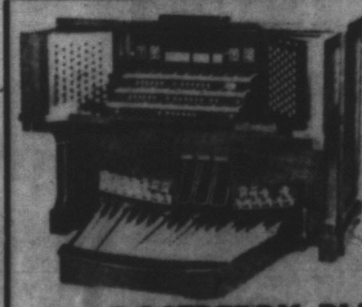
In recent years puppets have proven to be valuable aids in instruction by increasing motivation and holding the attention of young students.

Seminar sizes are limited to insure adequate personal attention so early registration is recommended. Individual registration fees are \$10.00 with reduced rates for groups available. Bay Vista Baptist Church is located at 4215 Pass Road, Biloxi, Mississippi 39531. For additional information, contact Dennis McIntire at (601)-388-1168.

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Only you can determine the amount of electricity you use. Electric power is a valuable resource, so conserve it whenever possible. A few tips:

Make sure your home is properly insulated . . . keep thermostat at 68 degrees in winter, 78 degrees in summer . . . conserve hot water and use appliances wisely. For a free folder on how to save, contact your nearest MP&L office.



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Chicago, Ill.—A free offer of special interest to those who hear but do not understand words has been announced by Beltone. A non-operating model of the smallest Beltone aid of its kind will be given absolutely free to anyone answering this advertisement.

True, all hearing problems are not alike . . . and some cannot be helped by a hearing aid. But audiologists report that many can. So, send for this non-operating model now. Wear it in the privacy of your own home to see how tiny hearing help can be. It's yours to keep, free. The actual aid weighs less than a third of an ounce, and it's all at ear level, in one unit.

These models are free, so we suggest you write for yours now. Again, we repeat, there is no cost, and certainly no obligation. Thousands have already been mailed, so write today to Dept 4186, Beltone Electronics Corp., 4201 W. Victoria, Chicago, Ill. 60646.







# SCRAPBOOK



AUTUMN'S APPLES — (RNS Photo by Bob Taylor)

## October's Bright Blue Weather

When on the ground red apples lie in piles like jewels shining; and redder still on old stone walls are leaves of woodbine twining. . . O suns and skies and flowers of June, count all your boasts together; love loveth best of all the year October's bright blue weather.—Helen Hunt Jackson

## Then You Are A Man

If you endeavor to understand  
Transgressions made by man,  
Or have tolerance to bear  
Another's view, with yours spared—

If you can give yourself or means  
With no thought of reward or gain,  
Or refuse to judge another's action  
Without first knowing what happened—

If you can overlook insults  
And indignities, and bear no grudge,  
Or feel sorely sinned against, with no impulse  
To strike back when misjudged—

If you are able to forget when you forgive,  
Putting injury out of your mind until  
You refuse to dwell upon it again,  
Then I say—you are a man.

—Iva Belle Pittman

## Sunday School Lesson: International For October 24

# The New Life Is Real Freedom

By Wm. J. Fallis  
Romans 7:1 to 8:17

They talk—even boast—about their freedom, but look at them. This man is so intent on improving his business that he spends little time with his family and has alienated his boys. This woman was not prepared for the loneliness after her second daughter married, and she yielded to the happy hour of some new friends. Now she cannot resist having a drink even in the mornings. This man never questioned the clichés of his home concerning outsiders; he joined

his crowd in making fun of others; now he is suspicious and even fearful of people who are different. In each case sin has enslaved a life. They may talk about freedom, but in these three areas they do not know what it means. New life in Christ can make a difference, can break the chain of habit.

**THE DIVIDED SELF (7:14-20)**  
Paul is still talking in this general passage about the role of the law. Although he has denied it as the source of salvation, he is quite willing to acknowledge its value for moral living. In verse 7 he said, "It was the Law that made me know what sin is" (TEV). Indeed, he said that the law is "holy, and just, and good" (v. 12).

It was not the law but sin which brought Paul—and other men as

well—under the sentence of death. Not only was he mortal or fleshly (carnal), but he was so possessed by sin as to act like its bought slave. That set up his tension and stress. The more he tried to obey the law, the more he found himself violating it. It was as though two forces or persons were battling for mastery.

**THE ENEMY WITHIN (7:21-24)**  
In these verses "law" has three meanings; it is "principle" in verse 21, which restates the argument of verse 15-20. Even when Paul wanted to do good, he felt the presence of evil. His inner self delighted in the law of God—he knew it was right and was glad to commit himself to it. But he had discovered another law at work in his body—"a law that fights against the law that my mind approves of"

(TEV). This law of sin is like an enemy who has breached the wall of personality and made Paul a captive of sin within himself. It was a tragic and hopeless condition, and Paul exclaimed: "Miserable creature that I am, who is there to rescue me out of this body doomed to death?" (TEV).

**FREEDOM IN CHRIST (7:25 to 8:2)**  
The answer to Paul's distracted question in verse 24 is "God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Despite the tension between God's law and the law of sin, he was confident that God would bring him through. In the first place "those who are in Christ Jesus" (RSV) bear no blame in the sight of God.

thing he does, but something he is. The challenge to boldness in witnessing is a challenge to Christian growth.

Telling others about Jesus Christ is a priority of the Christian life. "And ye shall be witnesses unto me." This command and explanation by Jesus set the priority. The first task is not to go witnessing, but to be a witness. Above everything else, to witness is to speak of our knowledge of God that has come to us in Christ. John said, "of the world of life . . . we declare unto you." To declare or to witness is to proclaim or tell forth the good news of the risen Christ. There are many ways of doing this, so many that no Christian is excused.

Remember, Jesus advised the witnesses to wait until they have been endowed with power from on high. "but ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." The power of the Holy Ghost was to come upon them; then they "were to be animated by a better spirit than their own." They were to possess God's personality in the Holy Ghost. Then they were to go out and speak words of truth.

The Christians were members of a body called a church. The first priority of the church was to be a witness. The church is not a club to entertain and look after one another, but the church is to share Jesus with the community.

## When The Frost Is On The Punkin

The husky, rusty russet of the tassels of the corn,  
And the raspin' of the tangled leaves, as golden as the morn;  
The stubble in the furries—kind o' lonesome-like, but still  
A-preachin' sermons to us of the barns they grewed to fill;  
The straw-stack in the medder, and the reaper in the shed;  
The hoeses in theyr stalls below, the clover overhead,—  
Oh, it sets my hart a-clickin' like the tickin' of a clock,  
When the frost is on the punkin and fodder's in the shock!

—James Whitcomb Riley

## October

O hushed October morning mild,  
Begin the hours of this day slow.  
Make the day seem to us less brief.

—Robert Frost

## To Autumn

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;  
To bend with apples the mossed cottage-trees,  
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;  
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,  
And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days will never cease,  
For Summer has o'er-brimmed their clammy cells.

—John Keats

## Autumn Woods

Ere, in the northern gale,  
The summer tresses of the trees are gone,  
The woods of Autumn, all around our vale  
Have put their glory on.

—William Cullen Bryant

## The Ranger

On the grain-lands of the mainlands  
Stands the serried corn like train-bands,  
Plume and pennon rustling gay;  
Out at sea, the islands wooded,  
Silver birches, golden-hooded,  
Set with maples, crimson-blooded,  
White sea-foam and sand-hills gray,  
Stretch away, far away.  
Dim and dreamy, over-brooded  
By the hazy autumn day.  
—John Greenleaf Whittier

There is no way that I can escape the  
compulsion of the Great Commission  
to go into all the world. But, I am only  
one person, and I can go only into my  
daily world. Yet, there is another way  
that I can go into the larger world. It is  
through the Cooperative Program.  
The very genius of this program helps  
me to have a part in many ways of  
getting the gospel out to as many  
people as possible in the shortest pos-  
sible time.—Eugene M. Fleming

## Revival Dates

Faith Church, Ovett: October 24-31;  
services at 7 p.m.; Rev. John  
Forsman, pastor of Wade Church,  
evangelist; John Odom, music direc-  
tor at Wade Church, singer; Rev. J. M.  
Foy, interim pastor.

First Church, Yazoo City: October  
20-24; week-day services: 7:00 a.m.

and 7:30 p.m. (Early morning services  
Wednesday-Friday only); Sunday  
services: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Dr. L. B.  
Satterfield, layman from Altavista,  
Virginia, evangelist; Mr. and Mrs.  
Sidney C. Reber, former foreign mis-  
sionaries, and now in the Management  
Services Division, Foreign Mission  
Board, SBC, guest musicians, Rev.  
James F. Yates, pastor.

## Devotional

## A Battle Strategy For A Soldier Of The Cross

By James W. Duke, Pastor, First, Shelby

I Timothy 6:11-14, "But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession. That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ."

In every pursuit of life, a person needs a strategy or a plan of attack. On two occasions, when Russia was invaded, she successfully used the scorched earth policy, burning all of any value and retreating, causing the invading armies to wear out in long marches over parched earth. When the stronger English Redcoats marched against the tiny American colonies, they adopted the strategy of the American Indians, hiding behind trees, keeping out of sight, striking, and then moving away under cover.

In the scripture passage here, Paul is giving Timothy a battle strategy for a child of God in the war against the world, the flesh, and the Devil. Actually, all Paul said of substance in the passage could be reduced to these four words found in the following verses: VS 11-Flee, VS 11-Follow, VS 12-Fight, VS 14-Keep. Look at these in the light of the teaching of our Lord. Flee-Follow-Fight-Keep.

I. FLEE — We need to learn to run. Now that sounds un-American to run, but that's exactly what Paul had in mind. We need to learn to run away from temptation like Joseph did when the ruler's wife tried to entice him. The Bible teaches there is a time for every thing under the sun and there is a time when it's wise to advance to the rear in all haste. Samson was one tough boy, but when running time came he was too big, too brave to run, and his staying cost him his power line to God and finally his life.

II. FOLLOW — We need to learn to follow, to run from the bad and run to the good. Jesus calls us to "leave our nets and come and follow Him." We are not ordered to blaze new trails or charter new paths, but we are called to follow the One who goes before us, in the way He leads us, and He will direct our paths.

III. FIGHT — We need to learn to fight. The One we follow promised a sword, not peace, and declared that in the world we would have tribulations. Paul said in Ephesians, "Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Christianity contained a cross for its founder, and there is a cross for each of us, too. "If any man will follow me let him deny himself and take up his cross daily."

IV. KEEP — Paul charges us then to keep this commandment until the Lord returns. So, you see, we are to keep on running away from every appearance of evil, keep on following the Lord, and keep on fighting the good fight of faith until the Lord returns and makes our enemies His footstool. Our battle then, is not for just a day, not for just an hour, but always. At the end of Paul's journey of earthly life, he could say, "I've fought a good fight; I've kept the faith."

If we will put to work God's battle plan for a clean and holy life, we will be able to say the same.

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AND there shall come forth a ★  
rod out of the stem of Jesse,  
and a Branch shall grow out of his  
roots: (Acht 13:23) (bear fruit)

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## Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For October 24

# Telling Others About Christ

By Bill Duncan  
Acts 1:6-8; 4:18-19, 29-31; 11:18-21

Ralph Keiper says that some people hate to witness for Jesus Christ! People embarrass them when they talk to them. "I know I will not be able to answer these questions about God's Word," said one person. "How can I meet their needs when I am not quite sure that the Gospel has met all of my own?" asked a man. Others want to speak to people about Jesus Christ, but they are simply scared to do it.

Have you ever felt like some of these, about witnessing? I certainly have. In the early years of my Christian life, witnessing was agony for me.

Christian leaders told me I must witness. I remember people talking about how many "fish" they caught each week. Unfortunately, most of my fish refused to be caught. It may have been that I was trying to win a large number of souls to add luster to my heavenly crown. Yet, I could not understand why I could not be successful like other persons.

In recent years, I discovered that my first duty was not to win souls for Christ but to be faithful to Him. Also I discovered that I was trying to impose my ideas upon others without considering their thoughts or feelings. I was trying to manipulate others into the Kingdom of Heaven. Have you made such a discovery about your witnessing? Too much of what we call witnessing is interest only in adding a statistic to a report of some kind.

Effective witnessing begins and is born out of a heart of love. People to

whom you witness can see by your spirit whether you are interested or not. Jesus always began with the person and moved to the needs.

What is an effective witness? Is it giving out a tract and saying, "Brother, Jesus loves you!" Is it sitting down with an open Bible sharing what Christ has done for you? All of these may be effective. To be effective, witnessing must meet the need of the circumstance. It may be simply sitting and holding a person's hand while a loved one faces a crisis—showing love. It may be a bold Christian speaking with a strong voice to be heard. Boldness in the Spirit must become the daily lifestyle of the Christian. Our imagination and ingenuity in witnessing will always be blessed by the Holy Spirit.

It is the nature of the Christian to be a witness. Witnessing is not just some-

## PROGRAMMER

The Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., needs a person with 2-3 years of RPG experience in business applications to work in its Richmond office. Its world-wide operations offer challenging and varied applications. If you are interested and can relocate to Richmond, Va., contact:

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